



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

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**REPEAT SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS AND 2 MONTHS
IMPRISONMENT FOR RECEIVING AND POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

– Self-admitted pedophile admits to past rape and sodomy of minor

LOUISVILLE, KY - Wendell Eugene Newkirk, Jr., age 41, of 10803 Holsclaw Hill Road, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, was sentenced to 14 years and 2 months imprisonment for receiving and possessing hundreds of images child pornography. Chief United States District Judge John G. Heyburn, II, also imposed a term of 10 supervised release. There is no parole in the federal judicial system. Newkirk was previously convicted of third-degree sodomy and third-degree rape of a minor in 1992.

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, said Newkirk had previously pled guilty on November 28, 2006, to one count of receiving child pornography and one count of possessing child pornography. According to Newkirk's admissions in open court, agents with Department of Homeland Security Immigration & Customs Enforcement ("ICE"), located a child pornography website proclaiming "you are in [sic] few minutes away from the best children porn site on the net!" The website, to which Newkirk was a subscriber, had a banner pledging "tons of uncensored forbidden pics," and many videos and feedback from a self-described pedophile. Newkirk himself admitted to being a pedophile who "gets off" and is sexually stimulated by child pornography.

U.S. Attorney Huber said that approximately 20 to 25 percent of these child pornography defendants have admitted to, or there is other evidence indicating, previous sexual encounters with children. Huber stated that, "These defendants pose a real danger to our children."

Newkirk had accessed the website at least five times between November 11-16, 2005. Some of the images he accessed included videos depicting the rape of a 6-9 year-old girl by an adult male, a 6-10 year-old girl laying on her stomach and being whipped with a cane on her buttocks and genitalia by an adult male, and another rape of a child anally.

During a search of Newkirk's residence, ICE agents seized two computers, one laptop computer, one Polaroid camera, numerous printouts of child pornography, printouts of stories relating to pedophilia and incest, minor girls' underwear, and some Polaroid photos of minor children. Newkirk admitted to accessing the website and to printing out numerous child porn pictures from the website. Approximately 955 still images and 75 video files were recovered from Newkirk's computers.

Assistant United States Attorneys Jo E. Lawless and Madison T. Sewell prosecuted the case. The Department of Homeland Security Immigration & Customs Enforcement conducted the investigation.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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